



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, 4th District

Chair, Intergovernmental Relations Committee

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For Immediate Release

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SUPERVISOR DIMITRIJEVIC THANKS FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR KEEPING PARATRANSIT SERVICES AFFORDABLE FOR THE DISABLED

\$1.50 fare increase proposed by County Executive is denied

Milwaukee, WI – A Budget Amendment sponsored by Milwaukee County Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, and co-sponsored by a majority of Finance and Audit Committee members, was unanimously approved by the Committee this morning. The amendment restores funding to the Milwaukee County Transit System “Transit Plus” paratransit service to avoid a fare increase.

This morning, the Finance and Audit Committee voted to strike the language in the County Executive’s 2008 Recommended Budget that called for an increase from \$3.25 to \$4 per ride. Transit Plus provides rides for individuals with a disabling illness or condition – including many senior citizens – that are unable to use the Milwaukee County Transit System buses.

“The riders who use Transit Plus do not have any alternatives. The County Executive’s proposal to raise the fare by 75 cents would have actually raised the round-trip fare to \$8,” Supervisor Dimitrijevic said. “I’m pleased the Finance and Audit Committee voted to restore funding to avoid the drastic increase proposed by the County Executive. This is about promoting independence for those in our community who need the help most. Once again, the community spoke and the County Board is acting.”

The full County Board will consider all amendments passed by the Finance and Audit Committee when adopting the 2008 County Budget on Monday, November 5 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 200 of the Milwaukee County Courthouse. In addition, the County Board’s annual Public Hearing on the County Executive’s 2008 Recommended Budget is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, October 29, 2007, at the Washington Park Senior Center.

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